From:	Dave Skoloda <daveskoloda@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, June 8, 2020 9:22 AM
To:	Acklin, Tim
Subject:	marsh project

June 8, 2020

To:
City Plan Commission Members
City Council Members
Mayor Kabat

From:
Dave and Gretchen Skoloda
14 Copeland Ave. #213
La Crosse, Wi 54603

Re: Re:
CIP Budget Item # 551: Marsh Hydrological Study

As residents living next to the La Crosse River in downtown La Crosse, we are first-hand observers of the vital role that the La Crosse River Marsh plays in the life of the city. On any given day, hundreds of bikers and walkers pass by on the trail that follows the river next to our condo building. Some are commuters, others just exercising, some are birders, some are visitors but all of us enjoy the network of marsh trails that give us a chance to see egrets, yellow warblers, fox, deer, snapping turtles, eagles -- the host of species that make the marsh and river such a huge asset to the city.

Even as we enjoy the marsh, we are reminded as the river rises following the intense storms fostered by climate change of how challenging it is for the marsh to perform its function of flood control. Our condo owns property on the river side of the trail that in recent years has been submerged much of the summer -- a disquieting sign of change. So we are pleased that the city is considering a proposal to "Analyze, Design Changes, Prepare Work Plans and Estimates, and Oversee Construction to Restore and Maintain Wetland Hydrology, Recreational Trails, and Habitat" in the marsh. We urge support for this effort to "to restore the marsh to a resilient natural/urban landscape." We hope that with professional guidance the city can make the infrastructure and water level management that will enhance the marsh's flood control capability and its ability to offer us beauty and recreation.

 Thanks for your work on this.